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C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 002172

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR UNDER SECRETARY HORMATS
DEPT FOR NEA/FLA

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/19/2019
TAGS: [ECON](#) [EAID](#) [ETRD](#) [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [EG](#)
SUBJECT: SCENESETTER FOR U/S HORMATS MEETING WITH MINISTER
RACHID

REF: A. CAIRO 1793 B. CAIRO 1522 C. CAIRO 1550 D. CAIRO 2122 Classified By: Ambassador Margaret Scobey for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).
1.(SBU) Key points: - Egyptian Minister of Trade and Industry (MOTI) Rachid Mohamed Rachid's visit to the U.S. comes as we are working to final
2.(SBU) MOTI Minister Rachid is traveling to the US November 19-24. He will be in Washington on November 23 for meetings with you, Commerce Sec
3.(SBU) Rachid and Ambassador Kirk signed the Strategic Economic Partnership framework agreement in May 2009 which committed both sides to deve
4.(C) In our discussions with MOTI over a work plan for such a dialogue, however, Rachid and his senior advisors have focused primarily on trac
5.(SBU) Rachid is also interested in further expanding the Qualifying Industrial Zone (QIZ) program, initiated in Egypt in 2004 to reward Egypt
6.(SBU) The US Department of Commerce and the Egyptian MOTI have agreed on a Memorandum of Intent (MOI) for the US-Egypt Business Leaders Forum
7.(SBU) The US-Egyptian strategic trade partnership, or Joint Forum on Trade and Investment, is intended to identify opportunities to expand bi
8.(SBU) The Joint Forum work plan is near completion. USAID, in coordination with USTR, State, Commerce and USDA, is finalizing an annex to the
9.(U) US agricultural exports to Egypt (excluding fishery and forest products) increased from \$1.7 billion in 2007 to \$2.2 billion in 2008, and
10.(SBU) The QIZ program has been a success story since its launch in 2004, allowing certain Egyptian companies to export to the US duty-free u
11.(C) As discussed in paragraph 5 above, USTR is waiting for GOE clarifications on discrepancies in information provided regarding designated
12.(U) -The United States is Egypt's second largest trading partner after the EU, accounting for 10.3% of Egypt's imports and 7.1% of Egypt's e